

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER NO. LTC # 052-2013

LETTER TO COMMISSION

TO: Mayor Matti Herrera Bower and Members of the City Commission

FROM: Kathie G. Brooks, Interim City Manager

DATE: February 19, 2013

SUBJECT: Reserve Police Officer Program – Update

The purpose of this Letter to the Commission is to provide an update on the efforts undertaken by the Miami Beach Police Department (MBPD) relative to the Reserve Police Officer Program by the Miami Beach Police Department (MBPD) relative to the Reserve Police Officer Program.

As part of the Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Fraternal Order of Police (FOP), the MBPD Reserve Program is capped at thirty-eight (38) Reserve Police Officers, and requires Reserve Police Officers to work a minimum of ten (10) hours per month. Currently, the MBPD Reserve Police Officer Program has twenty-four (24) active members. These Reserve Police Officers are for the most part assigned to Uniform Patrol, and serve to supplement normal patrol efforts; however, Reserve Police Officers with specialized skills or experience are also assigned to the Criminal Investigations Unit or the Property and Evidence Unit.

In July 2012, the Finance and Citywide Projects Committee requested the Administration to become more proactive with recruitment for additional Reserve Police Officers. Recent efforts to recruit for Reserve Police Officers have been focused on attracting retired Miami Beach Police Officers, as well as actively recruiting recent Police Academy graduates with no prior law enforcement experience. Reserve Police Officers are processed and trained in the same manner as full-time police officers, including a background check, psychological and medical examinations. Upon acceptance into the Reserve Police Officer Program, these officers will be required to complete the five-week orientation program, as well as the three-month Field Training Officer (FTO) program, as is required of all new Miami Beach Police Officers.

MBPD will continue to recruit Reserve Police Officers until all thirty-eight (38) Reserve Police Officer positions are filled. In the future, the MBPD hopes to use the City's active recruitment list for Certified Police Officers as an additional mechanism for recruitment, by reaching out to applicants to ascertain their interest in applying for the Reserve Police Officer Program.

In addition, as part of the collective bargaining process, the MBPD would like to pursue an increase in the total number of Reserve Police Officers in the program, as well as, to allow Reserve Police Officers to be assigned to augment patrol resources, which may assist with reducing operational costs for the Department.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

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